

Message Text

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42

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 IO-14 AID-20 DRC-01 /115 W

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O R 181620Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0506

INFO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

CINCSO CZ

CINCLANT POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2039

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: JCE RELEASES ADDITIONAL ELECTION RETURNS

REF SD 2038

1. ACCORDING TO THE MAY 18 PRESS, CENTRAL ELECTORAL BOARD (JCE) OFFICIALS DELIVERED TO THE PRESS LAST NIGHT (MAY 17) UNOFFICIAL AND INCOMPLETE RESULTS OF THE MAY 16 BALLOTING. JCE RELEASES SHOW 745,541 VOTES FOR THE REFORMIST PARTY AND 117,267 FOR LAJARRA BURGO'S PDP. INCLUDING THE VOTES FOR INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICES IN THE NATIONAL DISTRICT, THE TOTAL VOTE THUS FAR, ACCORDING TO THE JCE, HAS REACHED 904,603. JCE FIGURES REPORTEDLY STILL LACK 15 OUT OF THE COUNTRY'S 98 MUNICIPALITIES AND REPORTEDLY DO NOT INCLUDE VOIDED BALLOTS OR "OBSERVED VOTES". THE LATTER REPRESENT VOTES CAST IN A POLLING BOOTH OTHER THAN WHERE THE VOTER WAS FORMALLY REGISTERED WHICH MUST BE CHECKED OFF AGAINST A MUNICIPAL REGISTER TO AVOID DOUBLE COUNTING.

2. IN THE NATIONAL DISTRICT, JCE FIGURES SHOW 159,573 FOR THE REFORMIST PARTY, 36,037 FOR THE PDP, 21,485 FOR POPULAR WILL MOVEMENT

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(MVP), AND 18,745 FOR THE PEOPLES MUNICIPAL MOVEMENT (MMP), OF

TOBIAS JENAO. A TOTAL OF 508,159 VOTERS WERE REGISTERED IN THE NATIONAL DISTRICT.

3. A TOP REFORMIST LEADER, FERNANDO ALVAREZ BOGOERT, REPORTEDLY ALSO DELIVERED TO THE PRESS LAST NIGHT HIS PARTY'S OWN UNOFFICIAL CALCULATIONS OF THE ELECTION RETURNS BASED ON FIGURES RECEIVED BY PARTY MEMBERS FROM MUNICIPAL ELECTORAL BOARDS IN THE INTERIOR. ACCORDING TO ALVAREZ' FIGURES, THE REFORMIST PARTY RECEIVED 885,679 VOTES WITH 283 POLLING BOOTHS STILL TO BE HEARD FROM, INCLUDING 215 IN THE NATIONAL DISTRICT. THESE FIGURES, ACCORDING TO ALVAREZ, DO NOT INCLUDE "OBSERVED VOTES", THE MAJORITY OF WHICH THE PARTY CLAIMS WILL FAVOR BALAGUER. VARIOUS REFORMIST SOURCES ARE PREDICTING THAT THE FINAL COUNT FOR BALAGUER WILL BE BETWEEN 925 AND 950 THOUSAND.

4. THE PROMINENT AND RESPECTED EX-PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, LUIS JULIAN PEREZ, MADE A PUBLIC STATEMENT LAST NIGHT IN WHICH HE WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE REFORMIST PARTY HAD RECEIVED ABOUT 900,000 VOTES, THUS EXCEEDING ITS 1970 LEVEL BY NEARLY 200,000 VOTES. HE ALSO REPORTEDLY CALLED ON THE OPPOSITION TO SUPPORT AND COLLOBORATE WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

5. MEANWHILE, SANTIAGO ACCORD LEADER GUZMAN ALSO ISSUED A PUBLIC STATEMENT LAST NIGHT INDICATING THAT THE ACCORD WOULD NOT ACCEPT THE ELECTION RESULTS. HE PROMISED TO RELEASE A DOCUMENT ESTABLISHING THAT THE LECTIONS WERE IN FACT "NULL AND VOID."

6. COMMENT: WE PREFER TO AWAIT FURTHER JCE RELEASES, RATHER THAN ACCEPT PR CLAIMS, BEFORE ADDRESSING THE ELECTION'S IMPLICATIONS.
HURWITCH

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